CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A folding framing square comprising:

(a) a body having a tongue end, a body extension end, a straight bottom edge, a tongue end side edge, a body extension end side edge, the tongue end side edge being perpendicular to the bottom edge, and a channel;

(b) a tongue having a straight outer edge, said tongue being shaped to fit within the channel, said tongue being pivotally attached proximal to the tongue end of the body such that the tongue can be pivoted into a closed position substantially recessed within the channel and can also be pivoted into an open position such that the outer edge of the tongue and the tongue end side edge of the body are collinear; and

(c) a body extension having a straight bottom edge, the body extension being pivotally attached proximal to the body extension end of the body such that the body extension may be pivoted into an open position wherein the body extension bottom edge is collinear with the bottom edge of the body and the body extension may be pivoted into a closed position wherein the body extension substantially overlaps the body, whereby the folding framing square can be folded into a closed configuration for carrying within a nail pouch and can be unfolded into an operative framing square.

2. The folding framing square of claim **1** wherein the body has a recess along its top edge for facilitating the grasping of the tongue when the tongue is within the channel of the

body.

3. The folding framing square of claim **1** further comprising distance calibrations imprinted thereon.

4. The folding framing square of claim **2** further comprising distance calibrations imprinted thereon.

5. The folding framing square of claim **1** further comprising:

(a) a spring loaded ball bearing positioned on the body extension end of the body;

(b) an open position body extension detent, shaped to receive the ball bearing, positioned on the body extension such that the body extension may be releasably locked into the open position by the spring loaded ball bearing; and

(c) a closed position body extension detent, shaped to receive the ball bearing, positioned on the body extension such that the body extension may be releasably locked into the closed position.

6. The folding framing square of claim **2** further comprising:

(a) a spring loaded ball bearing positioned on the body extension end of the body;

(b) an open position body extension detent, shaped to receive the ball bearing, positioned on the body extension such that the body extension may be releasably locked into the open position; and

(c) a closed position body extension detent, shaped to receive the ball bearing, positioned on the body extension such that the body extension may be releasably locked into the closed position by the spring loaded ball bearing.

7. The folding framing square of claim **3** further comprising:

(a) a spring loaded ball bearing positioned on the body extension end of the body;

(b) an open position body extension detent, shaped to receive the ball bearing, positioned on the body extension such that the body extension may be releasably locked into the open position by the spring loaded ball bearing; and

(c) a closed position body extension detent, shaped to receive the ball bearing, positioned on the body extension such that the body extension may be releasably locked into the closed position by the spring loaded ball bearing.

8. The folding framing square of claim **4** further comprising:

(a) a spring loaded ball bearing positioned on the body extension end of the body;

(b) an open position body extension detent, shaped to receive the ball bearing, positioned on the body extension such that the body extension may be releasably locked into the open position by the spring loaded ball bearing; and

(c) a closed position body extension detent, shaped to receive the ball bearing, positioned on the body extension such that the body extension may be releasably locked into the closed position by the spring loaded ball bearing.

9. A folding framing square comprising:

(a) a body having a tongue end, a body extension end, a straight bottom edge, a tongue end side edge, a body extension end side edge, the tongue end side edge being perpendicular to the bottom edge, and a channel, said body comprising a top face having a lock guide, a bottom face having a lock guide, a spacer having a channel opening, a lock guide and a spring receptacle, said spacer being between the top face and the bottom face and said spacer being attached to the top face and

the bottom face, said lock guides being in alignment with each other;

(b) a tongue having a straight outer edge, said tongue being shaped to fit within the channel, said tongue being pivotally attached proximal to the tongue end of the body such that the tongue can be pivoted into a closed position substantially recessed within the channel and can also be pivoted into an open position such that the outer edge of the tongue and the tongue end side edge of the body are collinear, said tongue having a cutout at its pivotally attached end for receiving a lock;

(c) a body extension having a straight bottom edge, the body extension being pivotally attached proximal to the body extension end of the body such that the body extension may be pivoted into an open position wherein the body extension bottom edge is collinear with the bottom edge of the body and the body extension may be pivoted into a closed position wherein the body extension substantially overlaps the body, whereby the folding framing square can be folded into a closed configuration for carrying within a nail pouch and can be unfolded into an operative framing square;

(d) a lock, shaped to fit within the cutout of the tongue, positioned within the lock guides; and

(e) a spring positioned within the lock receptacle below the lock such that the spring will force the lock into the cutout of the tongue when the tongue and the body are perpendicular.

10. The folding framing square of claim **9** wherein the body has a recess along its top edge

for facilitating the grasping of the tongue when the tongue is within the channel of the body.

11. The folding framing square of claim **9** further comprising distance calibrations imprinted thereon.

12. The folding framing square of claim **10** further comprising distance calibrations imprinted thereon.

13. The folding framing square of claim **9** further comprising:

(a) a spring loaded ball bearing positioned on the body extension end of the body;

(b) an open position body extension detent, shaped to receive the ball bearing, positioned on the body extension such that the body extension may be releasably locked into the open position by the spring loaded ball bearing; and

(c) a closed position body extension detent, shaped to receive the ball bearing, positioned on the body extension such that the body extension may be releasably locked into the closed position by the spring loaded ball bearing.

14. The folding framing square of claim **10** further comprising:

(a) a spring loaded ball bearing positioned on the body extension end of the body;

(b) an open position body extension detent, shaped to receive the ball bearing, positioned on the body extension such that the body extension may be releasably locked into the open position by the spring loaded ball bearing; and

(c) a closed position body extension detent, shaped to receive the ball bearing, positioned on the body extension such that the body extension may be releasably locked into the closed position by the spring loaded ball bearing.

15. The folding framing square of claim **11** further comprising:

(a) a spring loaded ball bearing positioned on the body extension end of the body;

(b) an open position body extension detent, shaped to receive the ball bearing, positioned on the body extension such that the body extension may be releasably locked into the open position by the spring loaded ball bearing; and

(c) a closed position body extension detent, shaped to receive the ball bearing, positioned on the body extension such that the body extension may be releasably locked into the closed position by the spring loaded ball bearing.

16. The folding framing square of claim **12** further comprising:

(a) a spring loaded ball bearing positioned on the body extension end of the body;

(b) an open position body extension detent, shaped to receive the ball bearing, positioned on the body extension such that the body extension may be releasably locked into the open position by the spring loaded ball bearing; and

(c) a closed position body extension detent, shaped to receive the ball bearing, positioned on the body extension such that the body extension may be releasably locked into the closed position by the spring loaded ball bearing.